

REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1, 3-9 and 12-19 remain in this application, where claims 2 and 10-11 had been canceled without prejudice, and claims 1 and 12 are independent. Entry of the present amendment and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

The Final Office Action objects to claims 1 and 3-9 for certain informalities. Without agreeing with the position forwarded in the Office Action and in the interest of advancing prosecution, claim 1 has been amended to remove the informalities noted in the Final Office Action. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claims 1 and 3-9 is respectfully requested.

The Final Office Action rejects claims 1, 7-9, 12 and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) over WO 03/079318 (Horsten), rejects claims 3 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Horsten in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,015,991 (Conner), and further claims 4-6 and 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Horsten in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0036672 (Yoo). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 3-9 and 12-19 are patentable over Horsten, Conner and Yoo for at least the following reasons.

Horsten is directed to a mirror with a built-in display. As shown in FIGs 4a-4b, a polarizing mirror 16 is located between a display 11 and a polarizing selective mirror 2. An optical element 12, which is a $1/2\lambda$ plate, is located between the two mirrors 16, 2. The Final Office Action alleges on page 5, second paragraph, interprets the display 11 to include a color generating means.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 12, amongst other patentable elements, recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

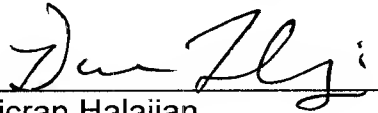
the display device having a liquid crystal material between two substrates and being next to the first plane, wherein the display device during use provides light of the second kind of polarization, the mirror display device having at the non viewing side a further polarizing mirror and color generating means, wherein the further polarizing mirror is between an electro-optical layer of the display device and the color generating means including a backlight.

A further polarizing mirror between an electro-optical layer of a display device that has liquid crystal material between two substrates and is next to the first plane and a color generating means that has a backlight is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Horsten. Rather, Horsten discloses a polarizing mirror 16 which is located between the display 11 having liquid crystal material between two substrates and an optical element 12, which is a 1/2λ plate. The Horsten 1/2λ plate 12 does not include a backlight, or liquid crystal material between two substrates, rather it is the Horsten display 11 that includes a backlight, or liquid crystal material between two substrates; and this Horsten display 11 is NOT next to the viewing side or next to the first plane 2 on the viewing side, as recited in claims 1 and 12. Conner and Yoo are cited to allegedly show other features and do not remedy the deficiencies in Horsten.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 12 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3-9 and 13-19 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 12.

In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the application in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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